

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—How many years' result have we to take? Is it for the last five years and by comparing them with those of the previous years, or for ten years?

President.—Take intervals of five years. Then, you will find it.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—A point of information, Sir. What has the Superintendent done to decrease the consumption?

President.—This is not the time for asking that question.

The improvement of the Trikkur road.

114. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) what substantial arrangement they propose to make for improving the Trikkur road inasmuch as the Diwan-President himself expressed the difficulty for travelling thereby;

(2) why the construction of the particular road work was refused to be entrusted, even if sufficient security was offered, on the understanding that it will be completed with the unspent balance allotted for it?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—

(1) The work has already been entrusted for execution.

(2) There was no refusal to entrust the work to anybody. Tenders were invited, and the work entrusted on terms most favourable.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—My reference was not to the road under construction, but it was regarding the old road on which more than Rs. 16,000 was spent.

President.—The Government gave up the new road, as it was found that to spend money on it would be a further waste. So the Government came to this conclusion, to resort to the older road by putting it in order.

The Edavanakkad bund.

115. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state in connection with the Edavanakkad bund —,

(1) the expenses incurred during the past 3 years thereon;

(2) the land tax of the area affected by the bund;

(3) the names of prominent *pattadars* with the extent possessed by each;

(4) whether such large amount is expended on any other irrigation work affecting only such extent?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) 1099 M. E.—Nil. 1100 M. E.—Rs. 13,024—11—9.

1101 M. E.—Rs. 2,4⁶⁴—14—7.

(2) Rs. 5,297—3—6.

(3) Vide the list appended. (*Appendix I.*)

(4) The groynes put up at Ochanturuttu and the canals that are opened in Elankunnappuzha and Narakkal villages are instances of similar works.

The Manjankuzhi chira.

116. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether they have come to know of the forcible illicit cutting open of the Manjankuzhi *chira* last year;

(2) whether they were informed through wire and petitions by the ryots of the locality about this, and that protection should be given for safeguarding the bund;

(3) if so, how many days before the breaking of the bund were they informed;

(4) the extent of damage caused, since the *chira* was not protected;

(5) whether any arrangements have been made by the Government to make good the loss sustained?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) Yes; there was a telegram from the people of Parappukara to the Diwan.

(3) Six days.

(4) There was not any appreciable damage.

(5) Vide answer to sub-division (4).

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What were the precautionary measures taken for protecting the bund, as information was given six days before the incident?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Police were informed to go to the *chira* every day for enquiry to see that the bund is not interfered with.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was the constable on the spot, when the *chira* was cut open?

President.—It was done during the night.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There was no constable at that time. The constable was doing his duty by going there once a day for the protection of the *chira*.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I want to know whether proper precautionary measures were taken.

President.—By “proper precautionary measures”, do you mean that more constables should have been detailed for duty ever since information was received, and that they should have been asked to be there on both day and night by turns so